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BOOK REVIEWS

The Elements of Jurisprudence. By Thomas Erskine Holland, K. C. Eleventh Edition. Oxford University Press, American Branch, New York, 1910. pp. 450.

To the student of the law, the announcement of a new edition of this valuable and authoritative text-book is of great interest. It is now slightly more than thirty years since the gifted author of this treatise gave it to the world, and this is the tenth time that changing law and other conditions have called forth a reappearance.

The work is too well known to need extended comment. The citations have been brought up to date, and the continual change in theory and practice of the law, both in the English-speaking countries and on the Continent, has been noted and set forth. The book should be in every working legal library.

C. R. W.

International Law. By George Grafton Wilson, Professor of International Law in Harvard University, etc. St. Paul, Minn. West Publishing Company. 1910. pp. 621.

With the complexity of the commercial relations and the rapid multiplication of the means of communication between the nations of the world, the importance of International Law has been rapidly increasing in recent years. Professor Wilson has briefly sketched its historical development, and discussed the present day interpretation given to the various principles of the law of nations. In his treatment of the subject the author has followed a well developed outline. He states the principles briefly and concisely, and sustains them by examples and authority. Much of the material for the valuable notes with which this volume is supplied is taken from the published reports of the Foreign Relations of the United States. These notes, being both modern and complete, add much to the interest of the work.

This volume is a late and worthy addition to the "Hornbook Series." The work should prove to be very valuable as a reference book for the practitioner, and should find favor as a text-book for the use of students of International Law.

On the last one hundred pages are printed five appendices, which contain the full text of several epoch making papers and documents pertaining to the growth of International Law. Among them are the results of the work of The Hague Conference of 1907, and that of the London Naval Conference held in 1909. This treatise will undoubtedly be as popular as its predecessors in the Series.

R. A. L.

A Lawyer's Recollections In and Out of Court. By George A. Torrey, of the Massachusetts Bar. Little, Brown & Co. Boston, 1910. pp. 227.

These memoirs of Mr. Torrey are evidently intended, not for the serious student of history, as many autobiographies are, nor even for those who are interested in serious biography, but simply for the busy lawyer in his hours of rest and recreation. Although the book gives one something of an idea of the conditions of life in a small Massachusetts town during the third quarter of the last century, Mr. Torrey, so far as his memoirs show, has never occupied a prominent enough position in the affairs of his State to make his present work a record of history. Neither is the book biography, because it makes no pretext of telling anything like a consecutive story of the author's life. It is merely a collection of anecdotes told in an exceedingly simple style, two or three of which one recognizes as having been seen before somewhere, but all of which are amusing, particularly to a lawyer. The book also contains some very brief but telling character sketches of other members of the bar with whom Mr. Torrey has come in contact. Several of the men mentioned in this way are men prominent in national affairs.

The "Recollections" begin with the author's birth at Fitchburg, Mass., in 1838. The first chapter tells of the ordinary pranks of a school boy, and makes apparent at the outset that the author has a remarkably retentive memory for details. The second chapter deals with Mr. Torrey's life at Harvard and the Harvard Law School, and displays the simplicity and democracy of the life at that institution between 1855 and 1861. The last three chapters are more entertaining than are the first two. They are a recital of incidents in the life, first of a country lawyer, and later of the successful counsel of the Fitchburg Railroad, with a large practice